

18. The spark plug in accordance with claim 1, wherein said center electrode tip has a cylindrical shape with a cross section in a range from  $0.07 \text{ mm}^2$  to  $0.79 \text{ mm}^2$  and said ground electrode tip has a cylindrical shape with a cross section in a range from  $0.07 \text{ mm}^2$  to  $1.13 \text{ mm}^2$ .

19. The spark plug in accordance with claim 1, wherein said ground electrode has a tapered shape with a cross-sectional area gradually narrowing with decreasing distance from said end surface.

20. The spark plug in accordance with claim 1, wherein said ground electrode has an outer layer made of a Ni alloy and an inner layer made of a copper or copper alloy.

21. The spark plug in accordance with claim 1, wherein said center electrode tip and said ground electrode tip are made of a Pt alloy including at least one additive selected from the group consisting of Ir, Ni, Rh, W, Pd, Ru and Os.

23. The spark plug in accordance with claim 1, wherein said center electrode tip and said ground electrode tip are made of a Ir alloy including at least one additive selected from the group consisting of Rh, Pt, Ni, W, Pd, Ru and Os.